



US010975568B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Monier et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 10,975,568 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 13, 2021**

- (54) **CEILING TILE WITH INTEGRATED BAFFLE**
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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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- (21) Appl. No.: **16/952,535**
- (22) Filed: **Nov. 19, 2020**

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- (51) **Int. Cl.**
E04B 9/00 (2006.01)
E04B 9/04 (2006.01)
E04B 1/99 (2006.01)
G10K 11/162 (2006.01)

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- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **E04B 9/001** (2013.01); **E04B 1/99** (2013.01); **E04B 9/0414** (2013.01); **G10K 11/162** (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

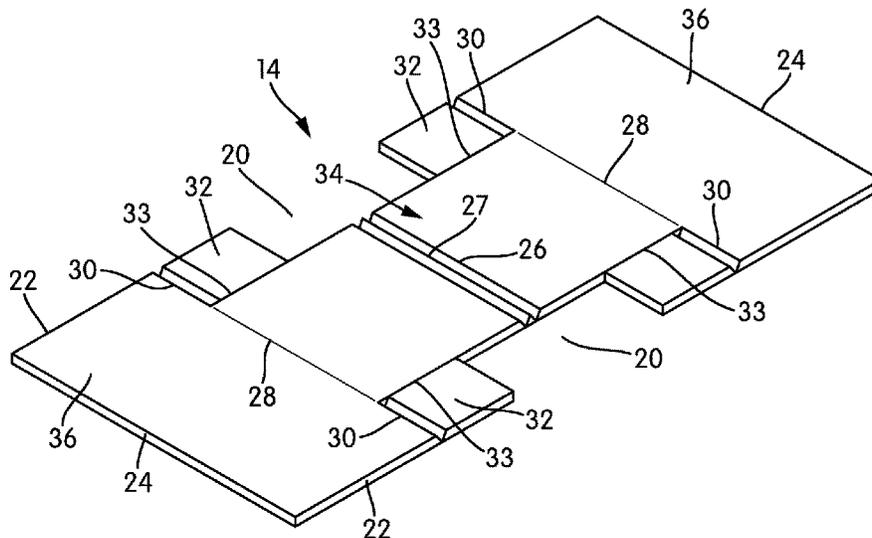
Ceiling tiles for drop ceilings and drop ceilings with such tiles are disclosed. The ceiling tiles have a main portion that is sized and adapted to fit within a grid of the drop ceiling, and a baffle that hangs down from the main portion. The ceiling tiles may be arranged such that they can be made, shipped, and sold in a flat configuration and folded into a three-dimensional configuration with the down-hanging baffle for installation. For example, a sheet of tile material may have a plurality of fold lines defined in it that allow the sheet to fold in such a way as to define the main portion and the baffle. In the flat configuration, the sheet of tile material may have the dimensions of a standard drop ceiling tile; in the folded configuration, the ceiling tiles may also have standard ceiling-tile dimensions.

- (58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC E04B 1/99; E04B 1/001; E04B 9/0414; E04B 9/00; E04B 9/225; E04B 1/8227; E04B 1/84; E04B 1/8409; G10K 11/162
USPC 52/144, 220.1, 220.6, 220.8, 506.01
See application file for complete search history.

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13 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



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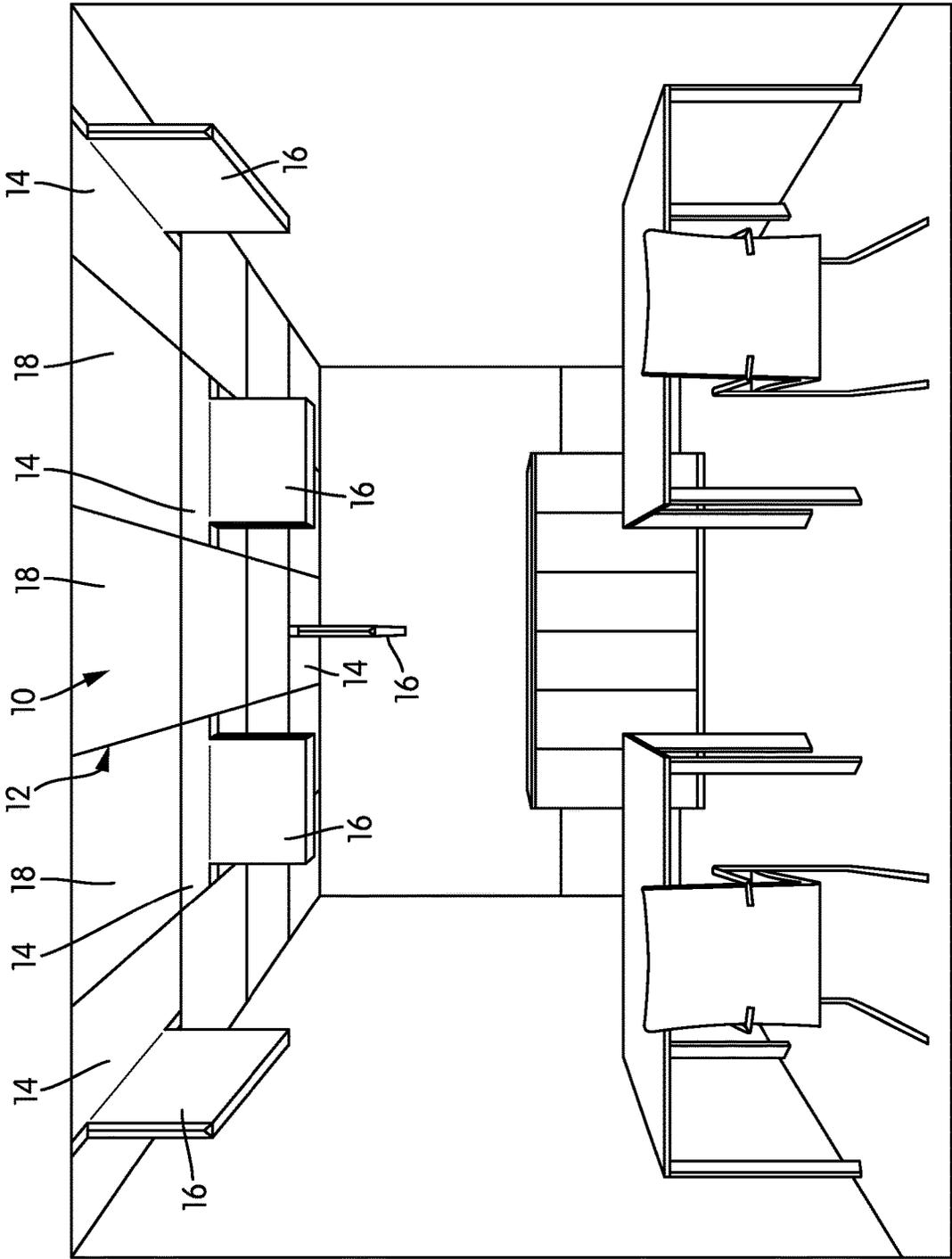


FIG. 1

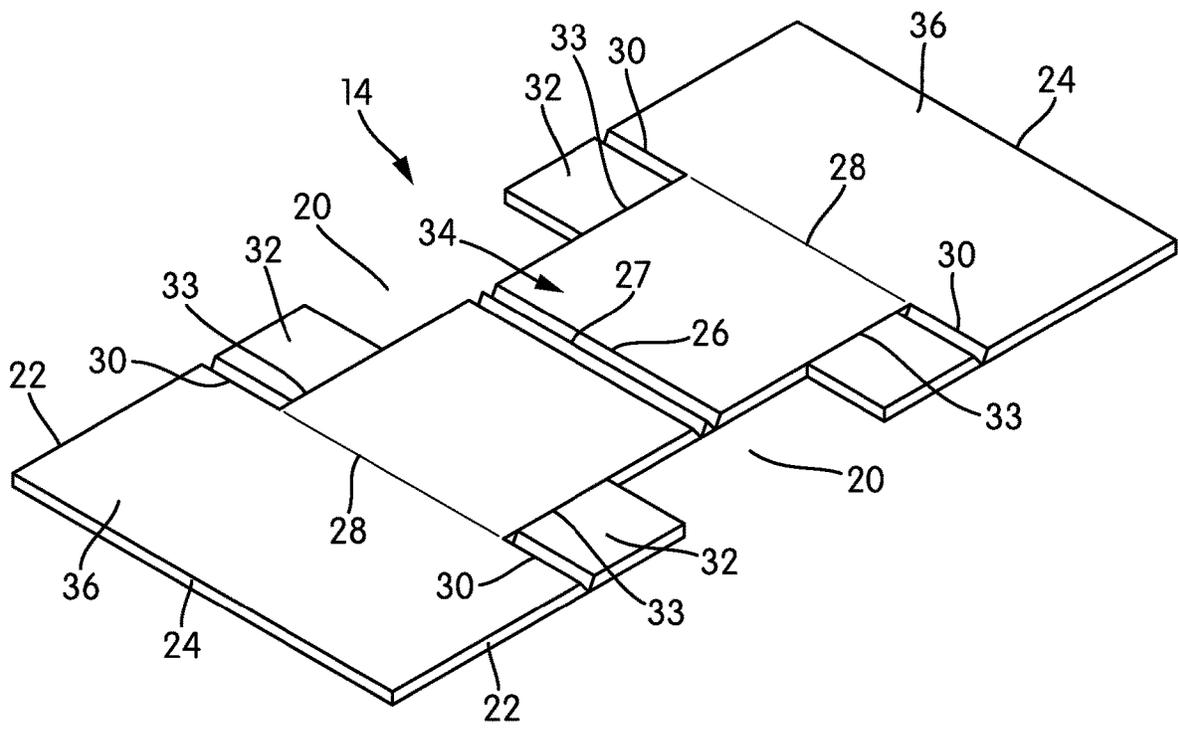


FIG. 2

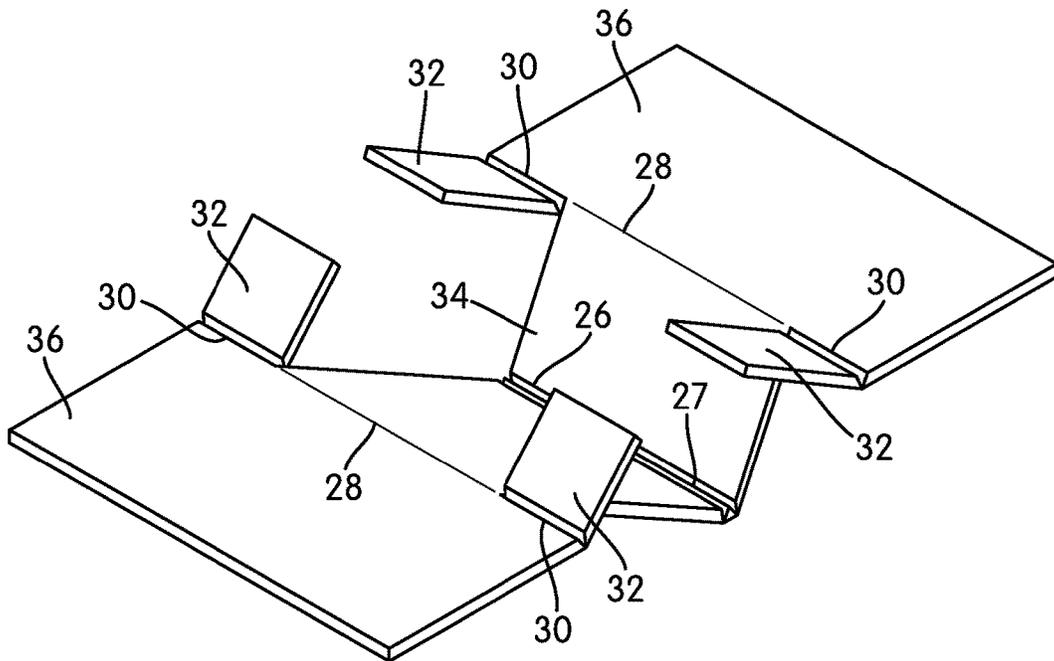


FIG. 3

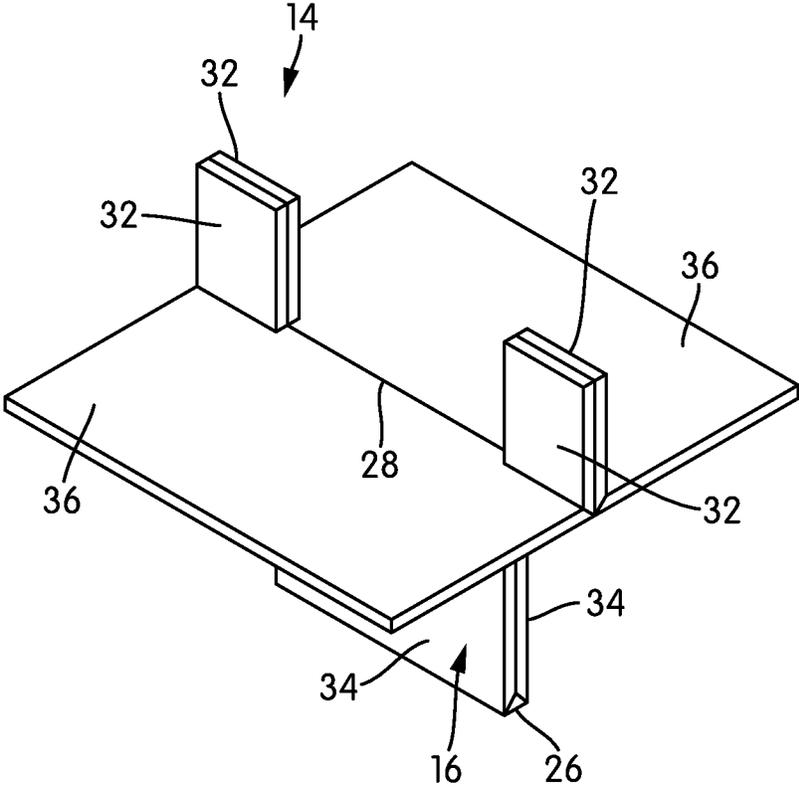


FIG. 4

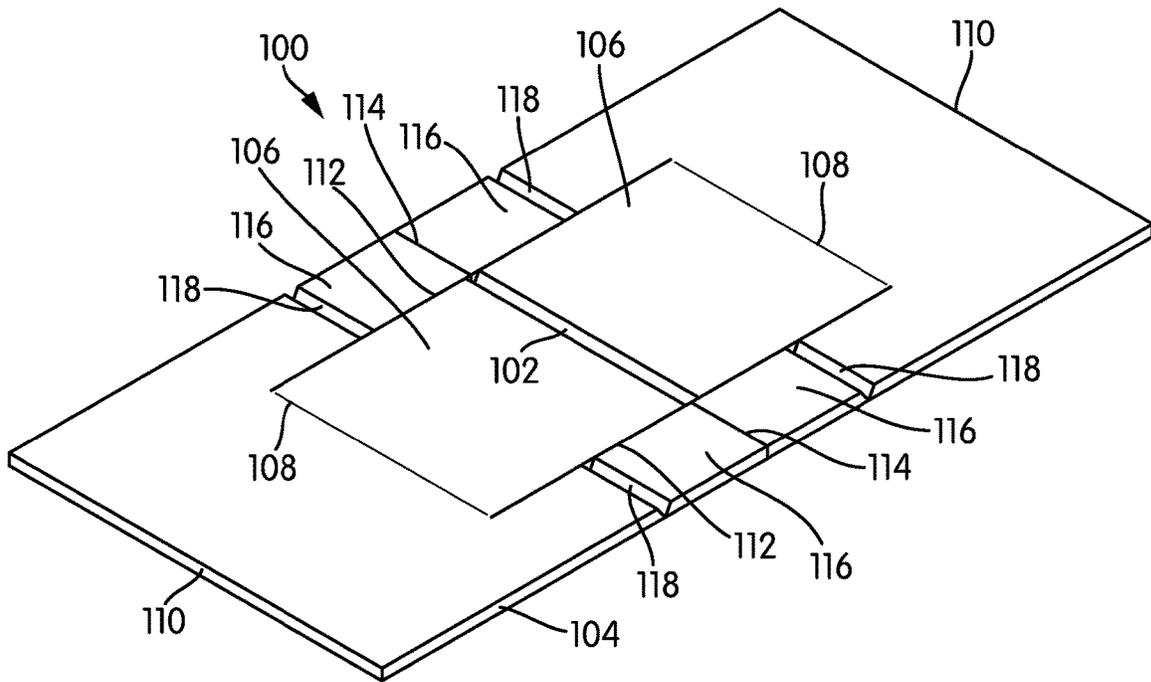


FIG. 5

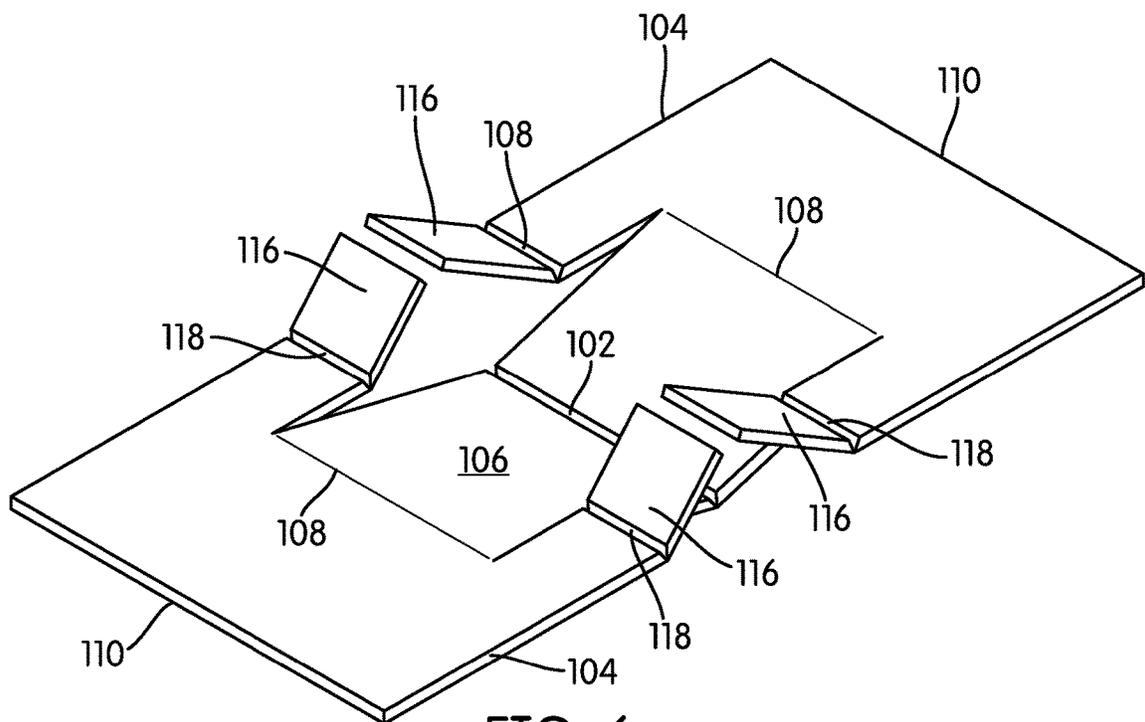


FIG. 6

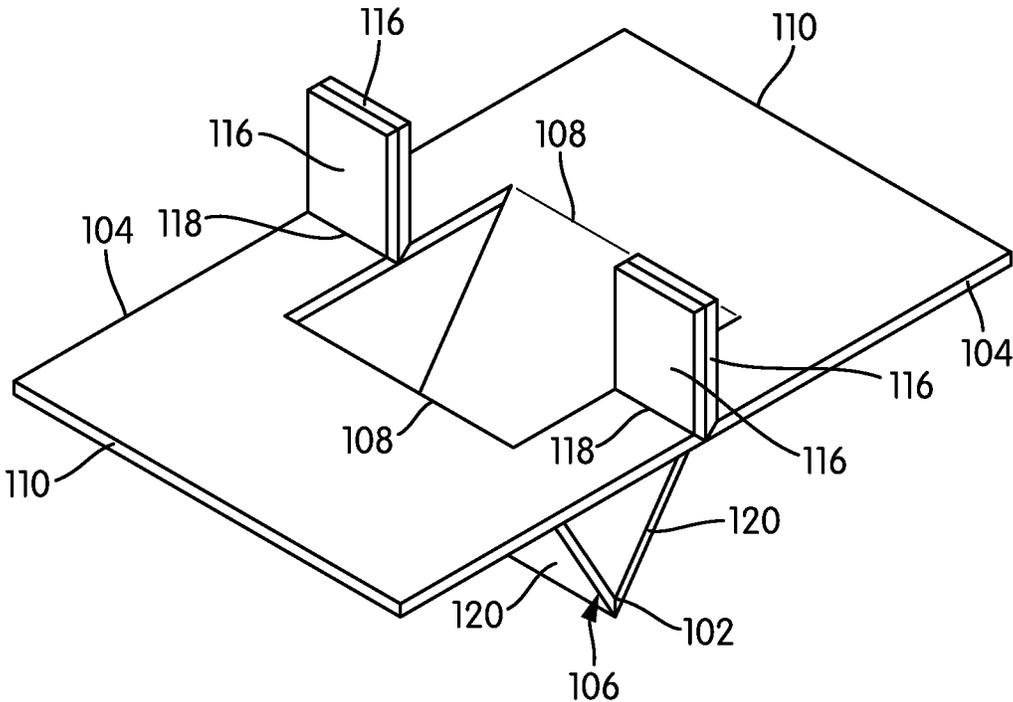


FIG. 7

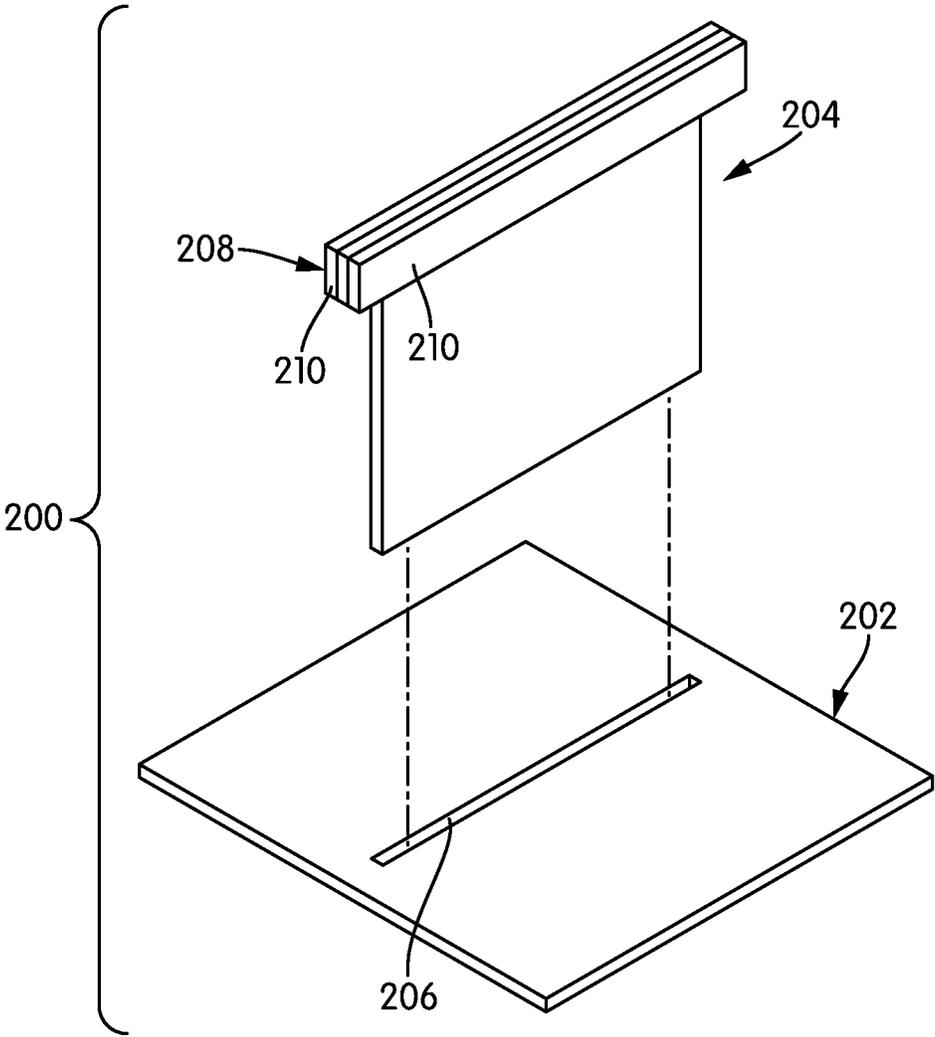


FIG. 8

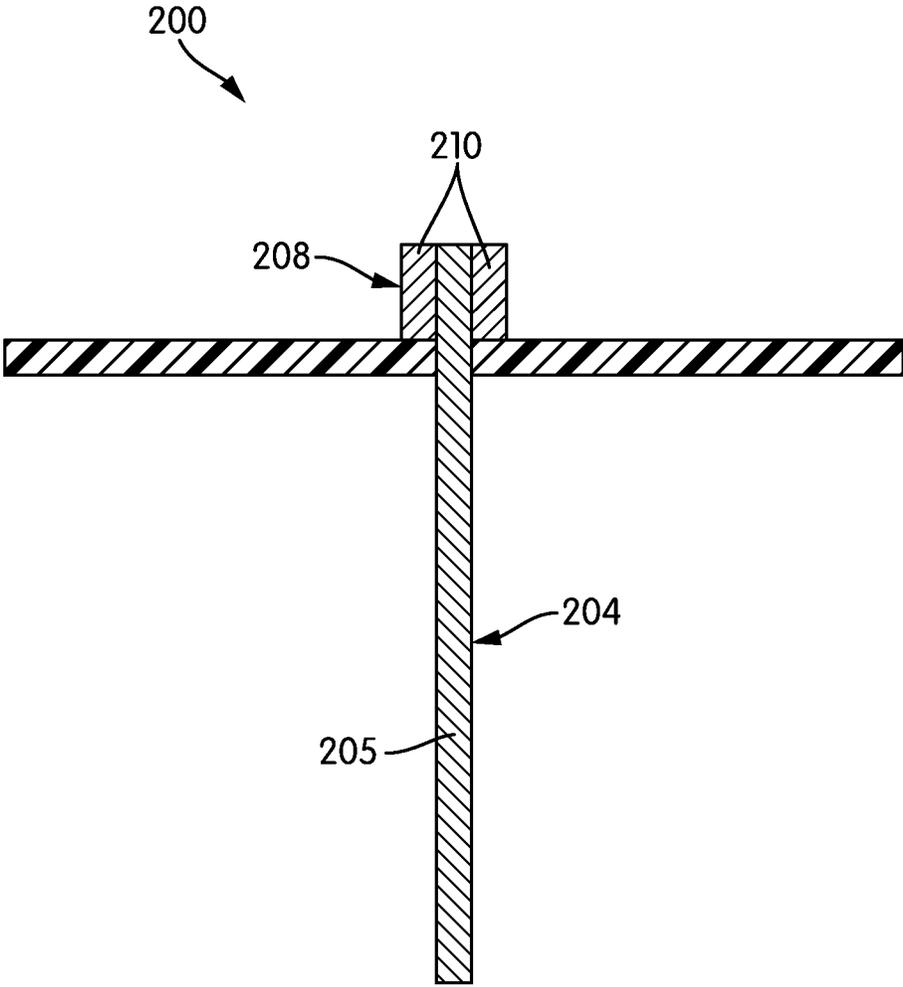


FIG. 9

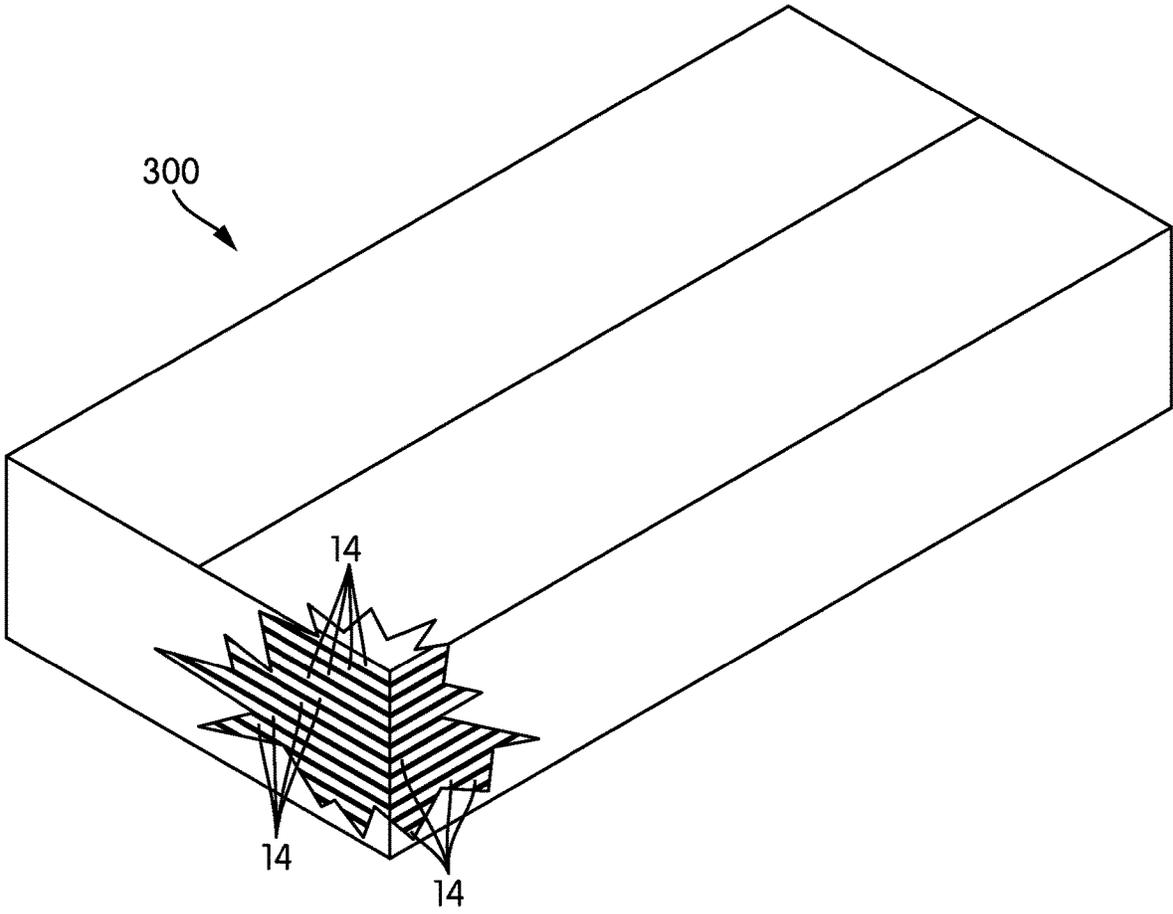


FIG. 10

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CEILING TILE WITH INTEGRATED BAFFLE

TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention relates to a ceiling tile with an integrated vertical baffle.

BACKGROUND

The drop ceiling has been ubiquitous in commercial and some residential buildings for decades. In a drop ceiling, a grid is installed at a height below the actual ceiling height of the building or floor. Tiles of standard sizes are dropped into the grid. Lighting fixtures, speakers, air returns, and other standard ceiling elements may also be placed in the grid. The parts of a drop ceiling are simple, easily installed, and easily removed and replaced if, for example, a tile is damaged or it becomes necessary to access the ductwork above.

Properly installed, a drop ceiling shields ductwork, wiring, and other building mechanics from view. It also reduces sound and distracting or productivity-reducing noise from the space below it by absorbing, scattering, or otherwise attenuating sound waves.

As useful as they are, drop ceilings do have drawbacks. In many cases, they are not completely effective at noise reduction. They are sometimes seen as architecturally mundane. Over the years, architects, interior designers, and others have sought to create more expansive spaces by omitting drop-ceilings. This trend cuts across industries to encompass office space, retail space, schools, and even residences. Related developments, like the so-called "open office" concept, eschew private offices in favor of large, open areas in which many people work collaboratively. This has created a demand for sweeping, expansive spaces without drop ceilings. Unfortunately, noise persists.

To control noise in spaces without drop ceilings, architects and designers often create custom baffles that hang down from the actual ceiling. While these can be effective, they usually use custom support beams and mounting hardware and are much more difficult for contractors to install and maintain. Moreover, custom baffles often do not have all of the advantages of a drop ceiling.

BRIEF SUMMARY

One aspect of the invention relates to a ceiling tile for a drop ceiling. The ceiling tile has a main portion that is sized and adapted to fit within a grid of the drop ceiling, and a baffle that hangs down from the main portion. Thus, installed in a drop ceiling, the ceiling tile may be able to offer both the advantages of a drop ceiling and the additional advantages of having a baffle.

The ceiling tile may be arranged such that it can be made, shipped, and sold in a flat configuration and folded into a three-dimensional configuration with the down-hanging baffle for installation. For example, the ceiling tile may comprise a flat sheet of tile material with a particular length, width, and thickness. The sheet of tile material may have a plurality of fold lines defined in it that allow the sheet to fold in such a way as to define a main portion and the baffle. The dimensions of the sheet of tile may be such that it has a standard size, e.g., two-foot by four-foot, in manufacture and shipping, but folds such that the main portion has a smaller standard size, e.g., two-foot by two-foot, for installation.

The proportions of the sheet of tile material and the locations of fold lines may be chosen so that the baffle has

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a variety of different configurations. For example, in one embodiment, the baffle may hang vertically down and may comprise two abutted thicknesses of tile material. In another embodiment, two sections of tile material may hang down at mirror-image angles, forming a triangular baffle.

In a ceiling tile according to another aspect of the invention, the tile comprises a main portion and a baffle portion. The main portion includes a slot, and the baffle portion inserts into the slot to extend downwardly from the main portion. The baffle portion has a flange at one end. The flange is larger than the slot in at least one dimension, such that the flange retains the baffle portion in the slot. In many cases, the main portion will extend horizontally within the suspended grid of a drop ceiling, while the baffle will extend vertically.

Yet another aspect of the invention relates to a drop ceiling. The drop ceiling includes a suspended grid and a plurality of tiles sized and adapted to fit within the grid. At least some of the plurality of tiles have a baffle or baffle portion as described above.

Other aspects, features, and advantages of the invention will be set forth in the description that follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

The invention will be described with respect to the following drawing figures, in which like numerals represent like features throughout the description, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a drop ceiling in an office setting, illustrating drop ceiling tiles with vertically-extending baffles;

FIGS. 2-4 are perspective views illustrating the folding of a drop ceiling tile of FIG. 1 from a flat configuration into the three-dimensional configuration shown in FIG. 1;

FIGS. 5-7 are perspective views of a baffle-tile according to another embodiment, illustrating the folding of the baffle-tile from a flat configuration into a three-dimensional configuration suitable for installation in a drop ceiling;

FIG. 8 is an exploded perspective view of a two-piece baffle-tile according to yet another embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view of the two-piece baffle-tile of FIG. 8; and

FIG. 10 is a perspective view of a shipping box with a number of ceiling tiles according to embodiments of the invention flat-packed within the box.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of drop ceiling, generally indicated at 10, shown as the functional ceiling in a building. A drop ceiling 10 according to an embodiment of the invention may be installed in office spaces, residential spaces, retail spaces, schools, hospitals, and in any other type of building or space where a drop ceiling might be used, although for convenience, some portions of this description may refer to office spaces.

The drop ceiling 10 includes a grid 12 that is suspended from the actual ceiling of the floor or building in a conventional manner. Installed in the grid 12 are a number of tiles 14 that include vertical baffles 16. For ease of illustration and to aid in understanding, five baffle-tiles 14 are shown in the view of FIG. 1; however, in many installations, every tile in the grid 12 may be a baffle-tile 14.

In many ways, the drop ceiling 10 has the same or similar features as most drop ceilings, such that it is routine to install

and easy to maintain for the same reasons as a conventional drop ceiling. The baffle-tiles **14** can serve as direct replacements for conventional ceiling tiles **18**. However, the individual baffles **16**, and all of the baffles **16** collectively, may have more benefit than a traditional drop ceiling with traditional, flat ceiling tiles in controlling noise. This may be especially true in an open-environment floorplan when there are few or no cubicles or other barriers between workstations or other areas at the floor level. As those of skill in the art will appreciate, the arrangement shown in FIG. **1** is exemplary; the arrangement of baffle-tiles **14** and the presence or absence of conventional tiles **18** in any particular installation will depend on the layout of the building or floor, the type and arrangement of workstations, and other conventional factors.

While the illustration of the drop ceiling **10** of FIG. **1** is simple and generic for ease of explanation, the drop ceiling **10** of FIG. **1** may have any configuration that a conventional drop ceiling may have. Additionally, while the drop ceiling **10** has a number of general benefits that may apply wherever it is installed, it may also confer specific benefits in particular types of settings. For example, a drop ceiling **10** installed in a hospital setting may reduce the level of noise that is carried from one area to another, making it easier for medical staff to have private conversations, even in public or semi-public areas, without risk that protected patient health information will be overheard. In universities and schools, a drop ceiling **10** may cut down on noise and distractions, increase concentration, and indirectly improve academic performance, especially for students seated farthest from the front of the room.

Over the decades that drop ceilings have been in use, ceiling tiles have been made of a variety of materials. In most modern installations, ceiling tiles are made of a polyethylene terephthalate (PET) felt, typically with at least some recycled content. Baffle-tiles **14** may be made with the same material, or with any other material that is commonly used to make ceiling tiles. References to "tile material" in this description should be construed to refer to any material of which an acoustic ceiling tile may be made, although many embodiments will be made of PET felt.

Baffle-tiles **14** may be manufactured, shipped, and sold in configurations like that shown in FIG. **1**. However, doing so typically incurs greater inconvenience and cost in shipping and handling. For that reason, it is advantageous if baffle-tiles **14** are made such that they can be manufactured and shipped in a flat form and assembled into their final configuration at the time of installation.

FIG. **2** is a perspective view of a baffle-tile **14** in a flat configuration. The baffle-tile **14**, when flat, has the overall size and proportions of a traditional two-foot by four-foot (0.6 by 1.2 m) ceiling tile. The baffle-tile **14** will generally also have the same flat thickness as a conventional ceiling tile, which is typically 9 mm (0.35 in). The baffle-tile **14** of the illustrated embodiment is made by creating fold lines in a traditional ceiling tile in such a way that it can be folded into the three-dimensional configuration shown in FIG. **1**. The term "fold lines" is a general one that, for purposes of this description, means any sort of modification to the tile that allows it to fold along the defined line, including cuts (such as V-cuts) and scores. In some embodiments, it may be necessary or desirable to add a reinforcing member that acts as a hinge, and the term "fold lines" should be read broadly enough to encompass such reinforced hinging areas. This description also refers to "break lines," which are frangible

score or cut lines that may be used to break sections of the baffle-tile **14** away. A break line may be a deeper cut or score than a fold line.

A rectangular area **20** of material has been removed from each long side **22** of the baffle-tile **14**. The rectangular area **20** that has been removed is centered along each long side. Each rectangular area **20** extends approximately one-quarter of the length of the long side **22** and has a width approximately one-quarter of the width of the baffle-tile **14** (i.e., one-quarter the length of the short side **24**). The removed rectangular areas **20** give the remaining area of the baffle-tile **14** a short "dog bone" shape. While the rectangular areas **20** are shown as fully removed in the view of FIG. **2**, when the baffle-tile **14** is manufactured and shipped, the rectangular areas **20** may merely be scored or otherwise partially cut at break lines for break-out and removal at the time of installation.

A first fold line **26** extends straight across the midpoint of the long side **22** of the baffle-tile **14**, coinciding with the transverse centerline of the baffle-tile **14**. As shown in FIG. **2**, the first fold line **26** actually comprises more than one cut; specifically, a pair of parallel V-cuts are spaced a very small distance from one another on opposite sides of the transverse centerline of the baffle-tile **14**. This leaves a triangular piece of material **27** along the transverse centerline. Thus, although this description uses the term "fold line" in the singular, a single fold line may include multiple cuts or scores, as the first fold line **26** does.

As can be appreciated from FIG. **2**, the baffle-tile **14** is symmetrical about the first fold line **26**; one-half of the baffle-tile **14** is a mirror image of the other. A set of second fold lines **28** parallel to the first fold line **26** and spaced about one-quarter of the length of the baffle-tile **14** to each side of the first fold line **26** define the central portion **34** of the baffle-tile **14** that folds to become the baffle **16**. Each of the second fold lines **28** comprises a single V-cut in the illustrated embodiment.

Additionally, a set of four tab fold lines **30** aligned in position with the second fold lines **28** and parallel with the first fold line **28** and the transverse centerline of the baffle-tile **14** define a set of four tabs **32**. The tabs **32** border the rectangular area **20** that has been removed from the baffle-tile **14** in the configuration of FIG. **2**. Short break lines **33** parallel to the long sides **22** of the baffle-tile **14** and its longitudinal centerline extend a short distance to separate the tabs **32** from the central portion **34** of the baffle-tile **14**.

FIGS. **3** and **4** are perspective views that illustrate the folding sequence that transforms the baffle-tile **14** from the flat configuration shown in FIG. **2** to the fully folded configuration illustrated in FIG. **1**. As shown in FIG. **3**, the fold lines **26**, **28** are configured so that the two sections of the central portion **34** fold down relative to the rest of the baffle-tile **14**, such that in the position of FIG. **3**, the two parts of the central portion **34** hinge relative to the first fold line **26**, with the first fold line **26** acting much like the spine of a book when the book is closed. While this occurs, the two rectangular segments **36** on the opposite sides of the second fold lines **28** are drawn closer to one another.

As shown in FIG. **4**, and as was described above, in the folded, three-dimensional configuration, the baffle **16** is constituted by the two sections of the central portion **34** folded against and abutting one another. The first fold line **26** and the other parts of the baffle-tile **10** are dimensioned and constructed to allow this abutment to occur. Thus, as a practical matter, the baffle **16** has a double thickness of tile material, which may aid its effectiveness in absorbing or dissipating noise. Meanwhile, the two end-segments **36** of

the baffle-tile **14** are brought nearly into contact with one another, but—for the doubled thickness of the baffle **16** separating them. In this folded configuration, pairs of tabs **32** extend up, opposite and parallel to the downwardly-extending baffle **16**. Pairs of tabs **32** opposite one another abut each other, as shown in FIG. **4**. When installed, the tabs **32** would extend a short way up into the plenum space above the drop ceiling **10**.

The elements of the baffle-tile **14** may be dimensioned and proportioned such that the baffle-tile **14** has a two-foot by four-foot area in the flat configuration of FIG. **2** and a two-foot by two-foot horizontal area in the folded configuration of FIGS. **1** and **4**. These are both standard sizes for conventional drop-ceiling tiles **18**. In other words, when unfolded, the baffle-tile **14** has a standard size which enables it to be handled and shipped in standard ways, and when folded, the baffle-tile **14** has another standard size that allows it to be installed in a standard grid. That said, there is no requirement that the baffle-tile **14** have any particular size in either configuration. In fact, there may be embodiments in which a grid of non-standard size is created specifically for baffle-tiles of that non-standard size.

Once a baffle-tile is installed in the grid **10**, lateral forces exerted by the grid **10** itself may be sufficient to keep the baffle-tile **14** in its folded, operational configuration without more. However, if those forces are not sufficient to keep a baffle-tile **14** in its folded configuration, the tabs **32** that are opposite and abutting one another may be secured together with adhesive tabs or fasteners driven through the abutted pairs of tabs **32**. Adhesive tabs may be pre-installed on the tabs **32** with release layers that can be pulled away to expose pressure-sensitive adhesive. That said, the installer is also free to use whatever fasteners are convenient including, e.g., drywall screws or nails.

The folded configuration of the baffle-tile **14** that is shown in FIG. **4** may have an additional advantage. The double thickness of the baffle **16** and the tabs **32** along the centerline of the baffle-tile **14** may, in effect, serve as a reinforcing beam that reduces any sagging that might otherwise occur.

The configuration of the baffle-tile **14** is but one of many possible configurations for a tile in accordance with embodiments of the invention. More complex and intricate folding schemes may be used. Additionally, the proportions of the baffle-tile **14** can be adjusted to create different effects. For example, the central section of a baffle-tile may have multiple fold lines to fold accordion-style for a thicker, albeit shorter, baffle.

FIGS. **5-7** are perspective views illustrating a folding sequence for a baffle-tile **100** according to another embodiment of the invention. The baffle-tile **100** has the same two-foot by four-foot dimensions in its flat initial or shipping configuration as the baffle-tile **14** and standard tiles. A first fold line **102** is positioned at the center of the long side **104** of the baffle-tile **100** again coincident with the transverse centerline of the baffle-tile **100**, creating a two-part central portion **106** that folds down to create a baffle. A set of second fold lines **108**, spaced equidistantly and on either side of the first fold line **102**, define the other ends of the central portion **106**. The second fold lines **108** are positioned approximately half of the distance between the first fold line **102** and the short sides **110**.

One of the main differences between the baffle-tile **100** of FIGS. **5-7** and the baffle-tile **14** described above is that in the baffle-tile **100**, there are no rectangular areas **20** that are removed. The baffle-tile **100** thus has the entire area of a two-foot by four-foot tile. A pair of lateral break lines **112** separates the central area **106** from the sides of the baffle-tile

100. A pair of break lines **114** on either side of the central area **106** and aligned with the first fold line **102** define a pair of opposed tabs **116**, one on each side of the centerline defined by the first fold line **102** and the two aligned break lines **114**. Pairs of tab fold lines **118** are positioned on each side of the baffle-tile **100** toward the short sides **110**, allowing the tabs **116** to fold relative to the rest of the baffle-tile **100**.

FIG. **6** illustrates the first stages of folding the baffle-tile **100** into its three-dimensional configuration. The tabs **116** are broken apart at the break lines **114** and fold upwardly about the tab fold lines **118**. Meanwhile, the central area **106** folds down, hinging about the second fold lines **108**. The sense of the folding motion is similar to that described above with respect to the baffle-tile **14**, but the proportions are different, and specifically, the tabs **116** are longer than the tabs **32** of the baffle-tile **14**.

The three-dimensional configuration of the baffle-tile **100** is shown in FIG. **7**. In this configuration, the tabs **116** abut one another, extending upwardly. The central area **106** extends downwardly, forming a baffle. However, because of the proportions of the baffle-tile **100** and its tabs **116**, the central area **106** does not reach the same position as the comparable structure in the baffle-tile **14** described above. Instead, as shown, the two flaps **120** that comprise the central section **106** form a V or triangle, with the point of the triangle made by the first fold line **102**. As those of skill in the art will understand, the angle made by the two flaps **120** of the central section **106** will vary depending on the lengths of the tabs **116** and may be adjusted to steeper or shallower angles.

The configuration of the baffle-tile **100** shown in FIG. **7** may have advantages when installed. While not intending to be bound by any particular theory, sound waves may be scattered or attenuated when they move from one medium into another. Because the triangular baffle **106** has two pieces of tile material with an air gap in between them, it may help to attenuate sound. The increased complexity of the shape may have some use in that regard as well.

As with the baffle-tile **14** described above, forces exerted by a grid **10** may be sufficient to retain the baffle-tile **100** in the three-dimensional configuration shown in FIG. **7**. If those forces are insufficient, the tabs **116** can be adhered together using adhesive tabs or fasteners.

In the two embodiments described above, the baffle-tile **14**, **100** is a single-piece element that is folded into its final three-dimensional configuration. However, baffle-tiles according to embodiments of the invention need not be single-piece elements. As an example of a multiple-piece baffle tile, FIG. **8** illustrates a two-piece baffle-tile, generally indicated at **200**. The two-piece baffle-tile **200** includes a tile **202** and a baffle **204**. The tile **202** in this embodiment has a two-foot by two-foot square shape. A slot **206** is formed in the center of the tile **202** and extends much of the width of the tile **202**.

In the illustrated embodiment, the slot **206** is a simple slot created in the tile **202** with a cutter, router, end mill, or other such cutting tool. The slot **206** is bare in the illustrated embodiment, simply a cut-out in the surrounding tile material. However, in some cases, the edges of the slot **206** could be reinforced.

The baffle **204** inserts into the slot **206**. The baffle **204** is comprised of a single thickness of tile material **205** with a flange **208** along its upper edge. The flange **208** of this embodiment comprises two thicknesses **210** of tile material. If the tile material has a thickness of 9 mm, the flange **208** would have a total thickness of about 27 mm. As shown in

the cross-sectional view of FIG. 9, the flange 208 keeps the baffle 204 from falling through the slot 206. The flange 208 extends past the edges of the slot 206, serving as a beam that, in some cases, may be directly supported by the grid 10. However, in other embodiments, the flange 208 may not extend across the entire tile 200. More generally, the flange 208 is larger than the slot 206 in at least one dimension.

In the illustrated embodiment, the baffle 204 hangs straight down, aligned with vertical. There is no requirement that this be the case. For example, the slot 206 could be formed on an angle, which would cause the baffle 204 to hang at an angle. There is also no requirement that each tile 200 have only one slot 206; in other embodiments, the tile 200 could have several slots 206, each set to house one baffle 204.

One advantage of a two-part baffle-tile like the baffle-tile 200 of FIGS. 8-9 is greater versatility. First, because the baffle 204 is free-hanging, it can be cut into various decorative shapes or otherwise modified for decorative or aesthetic effect. Of course, this is possible with the baffle-tiles 14, 100 described above, but to a more limited extent. The length of the baffle 204 is also basically arbitrary, and the baffle 204 may be longer than the baffle 16, 106 of a folding baffle-tile 14, 100. Additionally, the baffle 204 need not be made of the same material as the tile 202, although it is certainly convenient if the baffle 204 and tile are made of the same material. In addition to the aesthetic possibilities presented by different materials, materials with different masses and densities may contribute to noise attenuation.

As was noted briefly above, baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200 in their three-dimensional forms consume a lot of space. For that reason, the baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200 disclosed here preferably are manufactured so that they can be shipped and handled flat and folded into their three-dimensional configurations as close to the point of installation as possible. However, beyond consuming less space in shipping, there are myriad advantages to this. For one, it is easier to manipulate flat baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200 on and close to the job site. A number of baffle-tiles 14 flat-packed in a box 300, as shown in the perspective view of FIG. 10, can easily be brought onto standard elevators and moved to the point of installation without any special considerations. The box 300 shown in FIG. 10 is a rectangular prism; however, in some situations, the baffle-tiles 14 could be folded to fit in, e.g., a two-foot by two-foot cubic box.

Thus, with flat-packed baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200 it is not necessary to plan for the installation of the baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200 early in construction. This also means that baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200 can be retrofit to an existing drop ceiling without any special effort. It may not even be necessary to secure a freight elevator to move the baffle-tiles 10, 100, 200. This provides considerable advantages during construction and installation.

While the invention has been described with respect to certain embodiments, the description is intended to be exemplary, rather than limiting. Modifications and changes may be made within the scope of the invention, which is defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A ceiling tile, comprising:
a flat sheet of tile material having a length, a width, and a thickness; and
a plurality of fold lines defined in the sheet of tile material that allow the sheet to fold in such a way that in a folded configuration, a main portion of the folded sheet of tile material extends horizontally and a baffle extends downwardly therefrom, the plurality of fold lines including

a set of central fold lines, at least some of which extend transversely across the sheet of tile material, defining a central section that folds downwardly to become the baffle, and tab fold lines that define opposed pairs of tabs on both sides of longitudinal and transverse centerlines of the sheet of tile material, the tab fold lines arranged to allow the pairs of tabs to fold upwardly, such that the pairs of tabs opposed to one another across the transverse centerline of the sheet of tile material abut in the folded configuration.

2. The ceiling tile of claim 1, wherein in the folded configuration of the sheet of tile material, the main portion has a length of about half the length of the flat sheet of tile material.

3. The ceiling tile of claim 2, wherein in the folded configuration of the sheet of tile material, the baffle comprises two abutted sections of tile material.

4. The ceiling tile of claim 3, wherein the baffle depends vertically downwardly.

5. The ceiling tile of claim 2, wherein in the folded configuration of the sheet of tile material, the baffle comprises two sections of tile material that extend downwardly at an angle other than vertical, mirroring one another across a central fold line to form a generally triangular section.

6. The ceiling tile of claim 1, the set of central fold lines comprising:

a first fold line aligned with a transverse centerline of the sheet of tile material; and

a pair of second fold lines parallel to and spaced from the first fold line.

7. The ceiling tile of claim 1, wherein the sheet of tile material comprises removed sections of material or break lines to remove sections of material between the pairs of tabs opposed to one another across the transverse centerline.

8. The ceiling tile of claim 1, wherein the pairs of tabs are separated from the central section along respective break lines that are parallel to and spaced from the longitudinal centerline.

9. A drop ceiling, comprising:

a suspended grid; and

a plurality of ceiling tiles sized and adapted to fit within the suspended grid, at least some of the ceiling tiles being baffle-tiles, each of the baffle tiles including a flat sheet of tile material having a length, a width, and a thickness, and

a plurality of fold lines defined in the sheet of tile material that allow the sheet to fold in such a way that in a folded configuration, a main portion of the folded sheet of tile material extends horizontally and a baffle extends downwardly therefrom, the plurality of fold lines including

a set of central fold lines, at least some of which extend transversely across the sheet of tile material, defining a central section that folds downwardly to become the baffle, and

tab fold lines that define opposed pairs of tabs on both sides of longitudinal and transverse centerlines of the sheet of tile material, the tab fold lines arranged to allow the pairs of tabs to fold upwardly, such that the pairs of tabs opposed to one another across the transverse centerline of the sheet of tile material abut in the folded configuration.

10. The drop ceiling of claim 9, wherein in the folded configuration of the sheet of tile material, the main portion has a length of about half the length of the flat sheet of tile material.

11. The drop ceiling of claim 10, wherein in the folded configuration of the sheet of tile material, the baffle comprises two abutted sections of tile material.

12. The drop ceiling of claim 11, wherein the baffle depends vertically downwardly.

13. The drop ceiling of claim 10, wherein in the folded configuration of the sheet of tile material, the baffle comprises two sections of tile material that extend downwardly at an angle other than vertical, mirroring one another across a central fold line to form a generally triangular section.

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